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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1921.

THE VALUE OF FORESTS

The ruthless destruction of their forests by the Chinese is, according to foresters of the United States department of agriculture, one of the reasons why famine and plague today hold that nation in their sinister grasp. Denudation, wherever practiced, leaves naked soil; floods and erosion follow, and when the soil is gone, men must also go—and the process does not take long. Forests, it is pointed out, not only play an important part in the distribution of of mankind over the earth's surface, but also deeply affect his spiritual, physical and economic life. A country that recklessly wastes its natural resources faces ultimate poverty and decadence. History is full of such examples.

In the provinces of Honan, Shensi and Chihli, China, over an area some 100,000 square miles in extent, several million people are starving. The immediate causes of the famine were disastrous floods, followed by long periods of drought, which resulted in the failure of three successive crops.

The great plains of eastern China, occupied by the first Chinese of whom history tells, were centuries ago transformed from forest into agricultural land. The mountain plateaus of central China have also, within a few hundred years, been utterly devastated of tree growth, and no attempt made at either natural or artificial reforestation. As a result, the water rushes off the naked slopes in veritable floods, gullying away the mountain sides, causing rivers to run muddy with yellow soil, and carrying enormous masses of fertile earth to the sea. "Beware of the mountain water," read signs in many canyons of China, posted as a warning to travelers against the sudden rise of torrents during storms.

This lack of forest cover has made possible many of the factors that have brought disaster to millions of people of China this year. The tree-covered mountains formerly absorbed a considerable portion of the annual rainfall and let it escape by slow, regular seepage during the dry season. Now that there are no trees, shrubs, or even grass to restrain the rainfall, the streams that formerly were narrow and deep, and supplied an abundance of clear water the year round, have become broad and shallow, with slender currents of muddy water, which, when it rains, swell to



Rippling Rhymes

Walt Mason

Getting Back

We're getting back to normalcy, a little at a time; the hoodoos fade, the Jonahs flee, the grouch becomes a crime. This morning when I took my boat to have a bolt replaced, the workman sang a cheerful note, as to the task he chased. He crawled beneath my panting car and gave the bolt a slap, and smiled through all the grease and tar that clustered on his map. I handed him two iron men, and when that sum was paid, he blithely said, "Please come again—I'm keen to get your trade." Some weeks ago I sought his lair—my horn refused to toot—and for my story of despair he didn't care a hoot. "I am not fixing things today," he said, with haughty scorn, "and you may take your bus away and soak the doggone horn." I see a change of attitude in artisan and clerk, and, with the old time pep imbued, the boys get down to work. And work's the cure for all the ills that jar the human tribe; it's better than the choicest pills the statesmen can prescribe. Let's all forget the ancient sores, the ancient grief and pain; when all are busy at their chores, Old Normalcy will reign.

roaring torrents that bring disaster and destruction everywhere.

Water courses also have changed; rivers become uncontrollable, and the water level of the country lowered perceptibly. In consequence, the unfortunate people see their crops wither and die for lack of water when it is most needed. In many parts of China, it is said, these factors, combined with uncertain moisture conditions, make seven years out of every 10 more or less famine years.

Human folly and short-sightedness have thus made a county, fertile enough to support over 50,000,000 people, into a place where man must ever be haunted by fear of starvation and destruction. The lesson of deforestation in China is one which mankind should have learned many times from what has occurred in other places.

The starting of a new \$40,000 office building for Bend by a man who really knows Central Oregon and its resources should be an eye opener to the doleful ones whose songs of woe have been heard so continuously within the last two weeks.

Fifteen Years Ago

(From the columns of The Bulletin of April 27, 1906.)

Central Oregon is going to be tapped by a railroad at once, and that road is coming up the Deschutes river from the Columbia. This is the important information brought on Monday by F. S. Gordon, engineer for the Oregon Trunk, which is the name under which the line will be

built into Central Oregon. Mr. Gordon is here buying right of way for the railway, says the Madras Pioneer.

Much new land is being cultivated both north and south of Bend this year.

J. N. Hunter and family visited Awbrey butte last Sunday.

G. T. Sly, J. S. Bogue, Frank Bogue and W. E. Bogue, of Rosland, passed through Bend this morning on their way to Portland to serve on the grand jury.

R. B. Mutzig's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Mutzig, of Pittsburgh, arrived in Bend last Monday and will remain until about the first of September.

The Triplett boys are building a chicken-proof fence around their property on the north side of Wall street near the postoffice.

A. B. Estebenet fenced off his residence property on Hawthorne avenue this week and has set out grape vines and fruit trees.

Charles Spough of Tumalo has been on the sick list for the past few days, but is able to be out again.

J. F. Mogan, timber man from Bemidji, Minn., arrived in Bend on yesterday's stage.

AT THE MOVIES

DYNAMIC CLIMAX ENDS
 PHOTOPLAY AT GRAND

Her husband was a brute. She had withstood his drunken advances since their marriage.

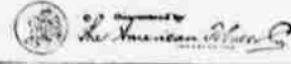
He had been faithful to her from the very day of their marriage—yet she could not obtain a divorce. Happiness in the form of true love and understanding had suddenly appeared in the most unconventional manner.

The desire to crush and hurt had influenced her cruel husband to re-



Cigarette

No cigarette has the same delicious flavor as Lucky Strike. Because Lucky Strike is the toasted cigarette.



fuse to grant her freedom.

For months she had been on a lonely Pacific isle with her former—far distant from conventional society—and now, after all this man had been to her, her husband, whom she thought dead, was still alive—alive and living with another woman. But he refused to give his discarded

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EVA NOVAK in "THE TORRENT," UNIVERSAL.

wife a divorce.

If you like dynamic climaxes; if you're fond of mystery plots, with suspense a-plenty, don't miss "The Torrent," starring Eva Novak, at the Grand theater tonight and tomorrow.

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